

LATEST BATTING AND PITCHING FIGURES OF THE AMERICAN AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

TIGERS OCCUPY SUITE IN CELLAR, BUT HAVE NOT BEEN HANDED SHUT-OUT

Timely Base Blows of Ty Cobb, Velt and Veach Have Prevented Opposing Clubs From Issuing Detroit a Goose-Egg Ration

DETROIT occupies a unique position in major league statistics at present. The Tigers are ennobled in eighth place in the American League race, and yet they enjoy the distinction of being the only club in the major league circuits which has not been handed a shut-out.

The trio just named have been responsible to a large extent for the failure of opposing pitchers to score a shut-out; at the same time, Cobb's poor batting thus far has been an unpleasant realization for the fans of the Michigan metropolis.

But the trouble is that the other players on the club do not seem to have the punch in their stinks, particularly when hits mean the breaking up of games. The club batting of the Tigers is only .239. That is the lowest in the league, excepting, of course, the Athletics, who are trailing in team clouting with .225.

Huggins Drew a Plum in Thormahlen

HERBERT THORMAHLEN is not exactly an Allied name, but he is a regular American, otherwise he would not be able to do such excellent outpawing for the New York Yankees. It looks very much as though Miller Huggins bought a chunk of solid hurling gold when he dug down in his sock and produced real coin for the services of the youthful left-hander.

Thormahlen got his early training in the International League under Jack Dunn and it was from the Baltimore leader that he was purchased by Huggins. Dunn picked the pitcher up on the lots of Jersey City, where he was pitching for various semiprofessional teams.

This Yankee twirler is able to stand up under any strain without cracking, if physical fitness has anything to do with the matter. He is more than six feet tall, weighs 175 pounds and is game throughout his make-up.

Tilden Has Shown Fine Form in New York

WILLIAM T. TILDEN, 20, of the Germantown Cricket Club, has demonstrated in the Harlem Tennis Club's tournament that, with the galaxy of stars in the service, he is looked upon as more than a possibility for the national title this summer.

In New York Tilden has had a hard road to travel. He has been called on at times to play several matches a day, but of course this is one of the things a winner must expect. On Thursday Tilden played two singles and two doubles matches, winning all of them with ease.

Always noted for being a very fast server, Tilden has shown this season that he can combine his speedy delivery with accuracy, something he formerly was unable to do. In the past he has been kept down because of the wildness of his service.

In recent years Philadelphia has had three champions—R. N. Williams, 24, in 1914 and 1916, and William J. Cloutier in 1906. It is to be hoped that Tilden will bring the trophy back for 1918.

War Will Cause Rise of Many New Stars

IN ALL branches of athletics stars rise, fall and soon are forgotten. At this particular period of our history, when the nation is at war, this condition is going to be emphasized tenfold. A host of America's best athletes are in the service and more and more will be going until the German people toss the sponge into Willie Hohenzollern's ring and admit that he has fallen.

It is, therefore, safe to say that when democracy has retired the last autocratic batsman a new cluster of athletic heroes will have risen. The majority of our football stars, even those in the lower classes, have either been drafted or have enlisted. Star baseball players have gone and are going almost every day; tennis, golf and basketball are furnishing their quotas, and invariably those who stood at the top are the ones who are offering their services.

Magee Boys Are Going Strong

LEE and Sherry Magee are proving to be a pair of joys forever to C. L. Mathewson. Both the infielder and the outfielder have been hammering the ball hard all season and done much toward lifting the Cincinnati club up to third place in the National League race.

Of the two, Sherwood is doing the better work. The ex-Phillie and our fellow citizen is not only cracking the ball at the rate of 313, but he is hitting well in the pinches. His batting with men on the bases has been one of the big features of the Reds' games to date. Not only that, but instead of starting out with a great flash, he appears to be simply working up to his old standard as a regular .300 hitter.

This put him out of the game for three weeks and his hand was in a plaster cast. During that time he was unable to do any work, but was not less and unhappy. Joe hated to admit that a little thing like a broken thumb could put him on the sidelines for three weeks and wanted to get back into the game.

On the day the cast was taken off he went to Bill Carrigan, manager of the team, and said: "I never felt better in my life, and I want to pitch today. Anyway, I need exercise."

Would You Trade Ruth for Cobb?

SUPPOSE you were a baseball manager and had Babe Ruth on your club and could trade him for Ty Cobb, would you do it? The majority of fans would unhesitatingly pull off the trade. The name of Cobb has become a byword to followers of baseball, consequently he is looked upon as the only and incomparable one.

Perhaps the greatest question with which the manager would be faced is whether he would be even as good as he is today? How long will Ruth last? May he yet to reach the zenith of his ability? Fielder Jones was discussing this question, and here is the way he looked at it:

"To begin with, I consider Ruth the greatest hitter I ever have seen in baseball. That excepts none. In addition, he has demonstrated he can play an acceptable first base or the outfield besides pitching winning baseball. In the number of games Ruth would win almost alone I am sure he would excel Cobb. Cobb can play only the outfield, hit and run the bases.

Both is years younger than Cobb, he is a harder hitter and will drive more runs. I don't believe any manager would hesitate between the two. It was in 1915 that he discovered he had lost his speed, curves and everything else and he seldom was used.

THE SPRING DRIVE AND EVERYTHING



WOOD REFUSES TO QUIT WHEN ARM IS INJURED AND WINS OVER DOCTORS

Smoky Joe, Considered a Failure in 1915. Will Not Admit Defeat and Cures Himself—Now Is One of Most Valuable Players on Cleveland Club

JOE WOOD, former snowball king, who pitched the Boston Red Sox into the pennant and world's championship in 1912, and was forced to retire in 1916 because of a knife in his hurling arm, has won the title of champion comeback of the universe. He is with us today with the Cleveland club, but not as a pitcher. He may take his turn in the box at a later date, but he is the best utility man on the club, and is capable of playing any position except catcher.

The story of Wood's comeback reads like one of our best sellers. This young man refused to be counted out when the doctors gave up hope, but gamely went to work to get his "glass arm" back into shape, and finally succeeded. He visited every specialist of note in the United States, spent a fortune trying to discover the cause of his ailment, and although every doctor had a different diagnosis—none of which was correct—he kept on going until he was convinced that he would be cured.

Has a Glass Arm. "It's tough for a young man at the height of his career to wake up some morning and find himself called a 'glass arm.' It's a real blow, especially when a man is twenty-seven years old and is beginning to realize the value of his earning ability. Yet it was his misfortune to Wood in 1915. It was like losing a successful business and going into bankruptcy. This income was about to be cut off for there was only one thing in the world that was a pitcher with a glass arm.

But Joe kept on pitching with quite a little success, believing that he could recover if he worked hard enough. In 1915 he was considered through and in the next year his contract was filled to such a low figure that he quit baseball and stayed home on the farm. He was only to Cleveland in 1917 and now is in first-class shape.

Injured in Philadelphia. Smoky Joe almost ruined his baseball career right here in Philadelphia. It seems strange, but a broken thumb was the cause of his trouble, although his pitching arm was ruined by a misplaced nerve in the shoulder. The Red Sox were playing the "A" one day in 1912. Joe Wood, who always could hit the ball, got to first on a single and tried for third when Hooper, who followed him, hit into right field. The play was close and Wood slid into the bag and broke his thumb.

This put him out of the game for three weeks and his hand was in a plaster cast. During that time he was unable to do any work, but was not less and unhappy. Joe hated to admit that a little thing like a broken thumb could put him on the sidelines for three weeks and wanted to get back into the game. On the day the cast was taken off he went to Bill Carrigan, manager of the team, and said: "I never felt better in my life, and I want to pitch today. Anyway, I need exercise."

Gets Real Cure. Joe's second and last cure was the real one and it happened this spring. With a team was a Doctor Drury, of Columbus, who once was a big league pitcher, but was forced to quit the game because his arm went bad. He made a careful study of his own ailment, and after watching Wood for two weeks asked him if he wanted to try a new form of exercise. "Just throw the ball about fifteen feet," said Doctor Drury, "and don't throw it hard. Keep this up for about ten minutes and then increase the distance to twenty feet. All you want to do is to get your arm in shape and that work will do it. Go through this exercise every day and see what happens."

Gets a Contract. Joe followed instructions and in two weeks felt so well that he pitched to the batters twenty-five minutes every day. He was going good and Fohli handed him a contract for 1918. Soon after the season opened Eddie Graney ruptured a blood vessel in his shoulder and Wood took his place in left field. He was high class and his batting won several games. On Thursday he went to first after Peters was injured and made good in that position.

Visits Specialists. In the meantime Joe was visiting specialists in every town he visited, and even made long trips to distant cities to try new ones. He met with failure after every turn and was beginning to get discouraged when he was called to get to the club.

Gets a Contract. Joe followed instructions and in two weeks felt so well that he pitched to the batters twenty-five minutes every day. He was going good and Fohli handed him a contract for 1918. Soon after the season opened Eddie Graney ruptured a blood vessel in his shoulder and Wood took his place in left field. He was high class and his batting won several games. On Thursday he went to first after Peters was injured and made good in that position.

Gets a Contract. Joe followed instructions and in two weeks felt so well that he pitched to the batters twenty-five minutes every day. He was going good and Fohli handed him a contract for 1918. Soon after the season opened Eddie Graney ruptured a blood vessel in his shoulder and Wood took his place in left field. He was high class and his batting won several games. On Thursday he went to first after Peters was injured and made good in that position.

Gets a Contract. Joe followed instructions and in two weeks felt so well that he pitched to the batters twenty-five minutes every day. He was going good and Fohli handed him a contract for 1918. Soon after the season opened Eddie Graney ruptured a blood vessel in his shoulder and Wood took his place in left field. He was high class and his batting won several games. On Thursday he went to first after Peters was injured and made good in that position.

EIGHTEEN-ROUND BATTLE FEATURE OF WEEK'S PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES

Ruth, Speaker, Hooper and Doyle, Smith, Kauff and Baker Leading Clouters in Merkle Rapping the Ball Ban Johnson's Circuit Hard in National Games

WALTER JOHNSON engaged in his longest battle when he applied a coat of whitewash to the world champions last Wednesday, the senatorial wonder beating Claude Williams, 1 to 0, after battling for eight innings. Hooper's premier hurler, who is slugging and advancing Eddie Ahlstrom to third, from where Ahlstrom was withdrawn home by Williams, assisted greatly in scoring his ninth scoreless victory over the White Hosed Tribe. The appended figures include all games played up to and including last Wednesday.

Table with columns for American League Batting Averages and National League Batting Averages. Lists player names, teams, and various statistics like G, AB, R, H, SR, P, etc.

Table with columns for American League Pitching Averages and National League Pitching Averages. Lists player names, teams, and various statistics like Games Won, Losses, etc.

PLAN A GOOD ONE. If Wife Objects, Invite Her to Dine at Club. Evans Advises. By CHARLES CHICK EVANS, JR. The Exmoor Country Club, of Highland Park, Illinois, is remarkable for many good things. From the beginning it held within itself the elements of popularity; then came the Evans and made it the best known course in the country. It was one of the good courses of those days, but some years later it began to lag, but now it has been brought up to modern conditions. Many the turf has been gone and later on the bunkering was equally fine.

Saves Much Time. This extra hour of daylight saved at the end of the day meant that a man could leave his office at the usual time and get in eighteen holes of golf before darkness fell. Indeed, in some places it will not be entirely dark until a o'clock or thereafter by the new time, and there is nothing more delightful than those two or three closing hours of daylight spent in the open air. It is the ideal time of day for the average man who has once watched the sunset across golf links will always rejoice to play at that hour.

Better Home to Play. If there has been a high wind all day it will usually subside toward evening. The little moisture in the air will make the grips of your clubs feel fine, and if the grips are inclined to be too fast they slow up just enough in the evening to make putting a pleasure. I have heard but one argument against the sunset tournaments and that is that the wife at home will not be willing to wait dinner until the hole can no longer be seen. Would it not be a good idea for the ladies of the family to take dinner at the club on the evening that the golfers play there? Most of the clubs have outdoor dining rooms, and a cozy little dinner there during the week would be pleasanter than the crowded ones of Saturday night. There is the advantage of the Exmoor idea and I think the chances are that before the summer is over it will be adopted all over the country.

Joe Mayer Falling Behind. New York, May 18.—Wesker Cochran, the low balling pitcher, increased his lead in his 18 1/2 handicap ballgame match with Joe Mayer at Daly's today. Cochran won the afternoon game by 800 to 700, and today he was leading Mayer 1000 to 700. He put together a fine cluster of 203 in the last frame of his 10th round match. The total score for three days' play, now is 1800 for Cochran and 615 for Mayer.

Joe Cantillon to Stay. Minneapolis, May 18.—Details for the sale of the Minneapolis American Association Baseball Club, virtually are completed, and the papers will be signed next week, probably on Monday. Thirty local business men have pledged themselves to acquire the club, and the new owners are Joseph Cantillon and E. R. Archambault, the present owners, according to present plans, George K. Belmont, of this city, will be elected president of the new franchise.

Agnew Fans Twenty-two Batters. Media, Pa., May 18.—Media High School easily blanked Pointon Athletic yesterday, 15 to 0. Agnew's pitching was a real find; he struck out twenty-two batsmen with apparent ease.

Table with columns for American League and National League. Lists player names, teams, and various statistics like G, AB, R, H, SR, P, etc.